WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Utilisation of funds given for Yamuna Action Plan

*506. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports in the media highlighting continuous rise in the pollution level in the River Yamuna despite huge outlay of Rs. 600 crore incurred on the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP);

(b) if so, Government's comments about the veracity of the report;

(c) measures taken by Government to ensure judicious utilisation of the fund so received from the Japanese Government; and

(d) the reasons for continuous deterioration of pollution and non-availability of cleaner water in the river even after huge investment for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Under the Yamuna Action Plan, Phase-I of Government which has been funded by the Japan Bank for International Co-operation a total expenditure of Rs. 668 crore has been incurred on pollution abatement works in Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Major works implemented under the plan are :—

Sewerage	—	170 kms.
Main Pumping Stations	—	60 nos.
Sewage treatment plants	—	32 nos. (734 mld)
Community Toilets	—	1123 nos. (out of which 960 toilet complexes have been constructed in Delhi)

In addition, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has also taken up the work of construction of sewage treatment plants at 17 locations. Despite these works, the water quality of Yamuna has not shown appreciable improvement along Delhi due to the following reasons :

(i) As against the present sewage generation of 3300 mld, the installed sewage treatment capacity is 2300 mld. Thus, there is a gap of 1000 mld in the sewage treatment capacity.

(ii) Out of about 130 km. length of trunk sewer, about 90 km. length requires refurbishing and rehabilitation as the sewers are either silted up or settled. As a result, the installed capacity of sewage treatment plant is not fully utilized and the untreated sewage is discharged in the river through various drains.

(iii) Out of a total of 15 common effluent treatment plants to be constructed in 21 industrial estates, only 3 have been completed so far. The remaining ones are targeted for completion by December, 2003.

(iv) Lack of dilution capacity in the river particularly along Delhi.

Some of the major works of construction of additional sewage treatment plants and refurbishing and rehabilitation of trunk sewers have been included in the Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II. In addition, the National Capital Territory of Delhi has also taken up the work of construction of two large Sewage Treatment Plants. All the riparian states of Yamuna except Delhi have also agreed to release their share in the minimum flow of fresh water of 10 cubic metres per second along the Delhi stretch of the river. Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has expressed its inability to release its share of minimum flow which is 4.6%, due to shortage of drinking water in Delhi.

The implementation of river cleaning programme is reviewed by both the Govt. of India and the State Govt. at various levels regularly. Funds are released to the Implementing Agencies of the State Governments only after the receipt of proper utilization certificates authenticated by competent authorities.

IFFCO plants in U.P.

†*508. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the current financial position of various factories/plants of IFFCO situated in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) plant-wise number of employees retired during the last three years along with the number of employees appointed on various posts; and

(c) the details of expenditure on promotion, expansion and gifts during the last three years till the 31st March, 2003?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.